THE SIEGE OF *PENOBSCOT*;

CONTAINING A

JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF

HIS MAJESTY'S Forces againſt the REBELS in *July*, 1779:

AND

A POSTSCRIPT, giving ſome Account of the Country,

&c. &c.

THE SIEGE OF *PENOBSCOT* BY THE REBELS;

CONTAINING A

JOURNAL of the PROCEEDINGS

OF

His MAJESTY'S FORCES detached from the 74th and 82d REGIMENTS, conſiſting of about 700 Rank and File, under the Command of Brigadier-General FRANCIS M'LEAN,

AND OF

THREE of His MAJESTY's SLOOPS of WAR, of 16 Guns each, under the Command of Captain HENRY MOWAT, Senior Officer;

WHEN BESIEGED BY

THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED (Rebel) Land Forces, under the Command of Brigadier-General *Solomon Lovell*,

AND

SEVENTEEN Rebel Ships and Veſſels of War, under the Command of *G. Saltonſtall*, Commodore.

TO WHICH IS ANNEXED

A PROCLAMATION iſſued June 15, 1779, by General M'LEAN and Captain BARCLAY to the Inhabitants;

ALSO

Brigadier-General *Lovell*'s PROCLAMATION to the Inhabitants; and his LETTER to Commodore *Saltonſtall*, found on board the Rebel Ship *Hunter*;

TOGETHER WITH

The Names, Force, and Commanders, of the Rebel Ships deſtroyed in PENOBSCOT BAY and RIVER, *Auguſt* 14 and 15, 1779.

WITH

A CHART of the Peninſula of MAJABIGWADUCE, and of PENOBSCOT River.

TO WHICH IS SUBJOINED

A POSTSCRIPT, wherein a ſhort Account of the Country of PENOBSCOT is given.

By *J. C.* Eſq. a Volunteer.

LONDON:

Printed for G. KEARSLEY, in *Fleet-Street*, and ASHBY and NEELE, (late SPILSBURY's) in *Ruſſel-Court*, *Covent-Garden*.

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JOURNAL of the PROCEEDINGS

OF

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES detached from the Army and Fleet, under the Command of Brigadier-General FRANCIS MCLEAN,

AND OF

THREE of HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOPS of WAR, of 16 Guns each, under the Command of Captain HENRY MOWAT, Senior Officer;

WHEN BESIEGED BY

Three Thousand Three Hundred (Rebel) Land Forces, under the Command of Brigadier-General Solomon Lovell,

AND

Seventeen Rebel Ships and Vessels of War, under the Command of C. Saltonstall, Commodore.

TO WHICH IS ANNEXED

A PROCLAMATION, dated June 14, 1779, by General MCLEAN and Captain BARCLAY to the Inhabitants;

AS ALSO

Brigadier-General Lovell's PROCLAMATION to the Inhabitants; and his LETTER to Commodore Saltonstall, found on board the Rebel ship Warren;

TOGETHER WITH

The Names, Force, and Commanders, of the Rebel Ships destroyed in Penobscot Bay and River, during 14 and 15, 1779.

WITH

A CHART of the Peninsula of Majabigwaduce, and of Penobscot River.

TO WHICH IS SUBJOINED

A POSTSCRIPT, wherein a short Account of the Country of Penobscot is given.

By X. Y. Esq. a Volunteer.

LONDON:

Printed for G. KEARSLEY, in Fleet-Street, and Asbury and Nettle, at Brighthelmston in Sussex. 1780.

CHART

of

PENOBSCOT RIVER.

EXPLANATION.

A Nautilus Island	M Eastern River
B Majabigwaduce Point	N Buck's Stream
C Long Island Head	O Marsh River
D Camden	P North River
E Belfast	Q Oak Point. Warren burnt
F Brigadier's Island	R Wentworth's Stream
G Cape Jellison	S Ball'd Hill Stream
H Pownal Point	T Grant's Stream
I Frankfort	V Sawerdabscook Stream
K Smith's Stream	U Brewer's Stream
L Orphan Island	W Condeskeeg Stream

X Condeskeeg Falls. Tide rises 14 Feet: 8 Feet of Water on the Rocks at high Water.

Fort George

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY.

To
The Right Honourable
Lord George Germaine,
One of His MAJESTY's principal Secretaries of State &c.

This CHART of PENOBSCOT
(Representing the Situation of about 700 of His Majestys Troops,
under the Command of
BRIG.R GENERAL FRANCIS Mc LEAN,
and Three of His Majesty's Sloops of War,
Commanded by
CAPT.N HENRY MOWAT SEN.R OFFICER,
when Besieged by more than 3300 Rebels July 1779
Commanded by Brig.r Gen.l Lovell

CHART

of

PENOBSCOT RIVER.

EXPLANATION.

A	*Nautilus Island*	M	*Eastern River*
B	*Mayabigwaduce Point*	N	*Buck's Stream*
C	*Long Island Head*	O	*Marsh River*
D	*Camden*	P	*North River*
E	*Belfast*	Q	*Oak Point, Warren burnt*
F	*Brigadier's Island*	R	*Wentworth's Stream*
G	*Cape Jellison*	S	*Ball'd Hill Stream*
H	*Pownal Point*	T	*Grant's Stream*
I	*Frankfort*	V	*Sawerdabscook Stream*
K	*Smith's Stream*	U	*Brewer's Stream*
L	*Orphan Island*	W	*Condeskeeg Stream*

X *Condeskeeg Falls. Tide rises 14 Feet: 8 Feet of Water on the Rocks at high Water.*

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Honourable

ege Germaine

principal Secretaries of State &c.

of PENOBSCOT

f about 700 of His Majestys Troops,

Command of

L FRANCIS Mc LEAN,

Majesty's Sloops of War,

anded by

OWAT SEN.R OFFICER,

more than 1300 Rebels *July* 1779

Lord George Germaine,

One of His MAJESTY's principal Secretaries of State &c.

This **CHART of PENOBSCOT**

Representing the Situation of about 700 of His Majestys Troops,

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when Besieged by more than 3300 Rebels *July 1779*

Commanded by Brig.r Gen.l Lovell,

and Seventeen Vessels of War Commanded by Commodore Saltonstall,

Is most humbly Inscribed

by His Lordship's

most Obedient humble Servant

John Calef

Agent for the Inhabitants of the District of Penobscot.

EXPLANATION.

A *Fort George — The N: W: and S: E: Bastions were open, when the Enemy appear'd in the Bay*

B *Rebel Redoubts on the Heights of Majabigwaduce*

C *Rebel Encampments*

D *Breast Work, where three Pieces of Cannon were mounted, on the Appearance of the Fleet, but taken by the Rebels the Morning they landed*

E *The King's Ships Albany, North and Nautilus, lying at their first Station, and engag'd with nine Rebel Ships, as their Divisions advanc'd*

F *Rebel Battery on Nautilus Island, open'd on the King's Ships, at their second Station*

G *Rebel Fleet*

H *Half Moon Battery at Banks House, of 12 and 6 Pounders, afterwards mov'd into the Fort.*

I *Seamen's Battery and Redoubt*

K *Second Station of the King's Ships*

L *Third Station of the King's Ships*

M *Rebel Battery of 18 Pounders, open'd against the King's Ships, at their third Station*

N *Rebel Battery not finish'd*

O *Rebel Battery not finish'd*

P *Rebel Batterys and Lines abbates'd*

Q *Hainey Point, where the Rebel Picquet was drove by the Seamen*

R *Field Piece brought against the Seamen, working at the Redoubt*

S *Encampment of the Troops, before the Rebels appear'd*

T *Here the Rebels landed*

U *Jos: Perkins's House*

W *John Perkins's House*

X *Mark Hatch's House*

Y *A: Banks's House*

Z *Dyces House*

a *Soldiers Barracks*

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HARBOUR OF MAJABIGWADUCE

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HARBOUR OF MAJABIGWADUCE

A

JOURNAL,

&c. &c.

ON the 17th day of June, 1779, Brigadier General Francis M'Lean landed at Majabigwaduce (Penobscot) with about 700 of his Majesty's forces, composed of detachments from the 74th and 82d regiments, to take post in the eastern country of New England. The time from this day to the 17th of July, was taken up in clearing a spot to erect a fort, and building the same, and a battery near the shore, with store houses, &c.

July 18. Intelligence was received that a fleet and army were preparing at Boston to besiege Penobscot, of which but little notice was taken. Capt. Henry Mowat, of his Majesty's sloop Albany, having been many years on the American station, and well acquainted with the disposition of the

inhabitants, and of the importance of the country of Penobſcot to the Americans, for fire wood, lumber, maſts, cod and river fiſh, gave credit to the information, and ordered the three ſloops of war into the beſt ſituation to defend the harbour, annoy the Enemy, and co-operate with the land forces.

July 19. The intelligence of yeſterday gains credit; whereupon the General, in order to make the proper diſpoſitions for an immediate defence, deſiſts, for the preſent, from his purpoſe of proceeding in a regular way with the fort; and prepares to fortify in a manner more expeditious, and better ſuited to the preſent emergency; in doing which he ſhews the utmoſt vigilance and activity, giving every where the neceſſary directions, viſiting inceſſantly by night and day the different parts of the works, and thus by his example animating his men to proceed, regardleſs of fatigue, with vigour and alacrity in their operations. The Inſpector of the inhabitants begs leave of the General to call in the people, to aſſiſt in carrying on the works; which being granted, about a hundred inhabitants came in (with their Captain* at their head) as volunteers; and having worked three days gratis, cleared the land of wood in the front of the fort, to the ſatisfaction

* John Perkins.

faction of the General, who returned them his thanks.

July 20. All hands buſy at work, preparing to receive the enemy. At noon, Capt. Mowat, having made every preparation in his power to ſecure the harbour, &c. ſent 180 men on ſhore from the ſhips of war, to work on the fort.

July 21. Intelligence is received that a fleet of near 40 ſail of veſſels had ſailed from Boſton, eaſtward. All hands at work day and night.

July 22. Nothing remarkable. All hands at work day and night. This evening a ſpy brought an account that 40 ſail of veſſels put into Townſend Harbour yeſterday.

July 23. Every perſon buſily employed. The Inſpector calls in a great number of inhabitants to work, who are employed in felling trees, raiſing an abbatis round the fort, building platforms for the guns, &c. Saw three ſail in the offing. Several canoes from the iſlands below come to adviſe the General of a large number of veſſels being becalmed off St. George's Iſland, ſtanding with their heads to the eaſtward. All doubt of an attack from the Enemy is now vaniſhed.

July 24. At 4 P. M. diſcovered a large fleet ſtanding up the bay, which, from various circumſtances, we believed to be the armament that, according to intelligence received, had been fitted out at Boſton, to beſiege this place. On this account, Capt. Mowat thought proper to detain the North and Nautilus ſloops, which had been ordered for other ſervice. At five, by ſignal from the Albany, the ſeamen, who for ſome days paſt had been at work in raiſing the S. E. baſtion of the fort, repaired on board their reſpective ſhips, (which were immediately cleared for action) and, as had been uſual, were every evening exerciſed at their quarters. The Albany, North, and Nautilus, had dropped down the harbour, and moored in a well-formed and cloſe line of battle acroſs the entrance, immediately within the rocks on Bagwaduce point, and the point of Nautilus, or Croſs Iſland; giving a birth, out of the line of fire, to three tranſports, ſtationed and prepared to ſlip and run foul of the Enemy's ſhips, ſhould they attempt to enter the harbour. The troops were encamped about half a mile from the works; the well baſtion of which was not yet begun, nor the *Seamen*'s* quite finiſhed; but, on the appearance of the Enemy, the works were put in a more defenſible ſtate: ſome cannon

* So called as being the work of the ſeamen only, under the direction of Lieut. Brooke, of his Majeſty's ſhip North.

non were mounted, and the little army was in garriſon early the next morning. Guard-boats, during the night, watched the motions of the Enemy, who were diſcovered to have come to an anchor about three or four leagues off, in the narrows of Penobſcot.

July 25. At 10 A. M. a brig appeared at ſome diſtance from the harbour's mouth, and after reconnoitring the ſituation of the men of war, ſtood back into the fleet. At noon, the Enemy's fleet, conſiſting of 37 ſail of ſhips, brigs, and tranſports, arrived in the bay of the harbour; the tranſports proceeded about half a mile up Penobſcot river, and came to an anchor, while the armed ſhips and brigs ſtood off and on, and a boat from each ſhip repaired on board their flag ſhip, which had thrown out a ſignal for that purpoſe. At 3 P. M. nine ſhips, forming into three diviſions, ſtood towards the King's ſhips, and, as they advanced in the line, hove-to and engaged. A very briſk cannonade continued four glaſſes, when the Enemy bore up, and came to an anchor in the bay without. The King's ſhips ſuffered only in their rigging. The fire of the Enemy was random and irregular; and their manœuvres, as to backing and filling, beſpoke confuſion, particularly in the firſt diviſion, which

ſcarcely

ſcarcely got from the line of fire when the ſecond began to engage. The ſecond and third diviſions appeared to have but one object in view, that of cutting the ſprings of the men of war, to ſwing them from the bearings of their broadſides, and thereby to afford their fleet an entrance into the harbour. During the cannonade with the ſhipping, the Enemy made an attempt to land their troops on Bagwaduce, but were repulſed with ſome loſs. On the retreat of the Enemy's troops and ſhips, the garriſon manned their works, and gave three chears to the men of war, which were returned; and ſoon after, the general and field officers went down to the beach, and alſo gave three cheers, which were returned by the ſhips. Guard-boats, and ſhips' companies, during the night, lay at their quarters.

July 26. At 10 A. M. the Enemy's ſhips got under weigh, and, forming their diviſions as yeſterday, ſtood in and engaged the King's ſhips four glaſſes and a half. The damages ſuſtained this day, alſo, were chiefly in the rigging at the extreme ends of the ſhips; and the fire of the Enemy appears again to be directed to the moorings; which attempt not proving ſucceſsful, they bore up and anchored without. The Enemy again attempted to land their troops, but were driven back with ſome

little

little loſs. At 6 P. M. the Enemy, having ſtationed two brigs of 14 guns, and one ſloop of 12, on the eaſt ſide of Nautilus iſland, landed 200 men, and diſlodging a party of 20 marines, took poſſeſſion of four 4-pounders (two not mounted) and a ſmall quantity of ammunition. At 9 P. M. it being found that the Enemy were very buſy at work, and that they had landed ſome heavy artillery, which they were getting up to the heights of the iſland, and againſt which the men of war could not act in their preſent ſtation, it was judged expedient to move them farther up the river. This was accordingly done, and the line formed as before: the tranſports moved up at the ſame time, and anchored within the men of war. Guard-boats, and the ſhips' companies, as uſual, lying at their quarters.

July 27. Pretty quiet all this day. A few ſhot from ſome ſhips of the Enemy were aimed at the ſmall battery on Majabigwaduce point; which were returned with a degree of ſucceſs, one ſhip having been driven from her ſtation. Obſerved the Enemy very buſy in erecting their battery on Nautilus iſland. The garriſon being much in want of cannon, ſome guns from the tranſports, and from the off-ſide of the men of war, were landed, and, being dragged by the ſeamen up to the fort, were diſpoſed of for its uſe. At 3 P. M.

a boat

a boat, passing from the Enemy's ships to Nautilus island, was sunk by a random shot from the fort. At 11 P. M. the guard-boats from the King's ships fell in and exchanged a few shot with the Enemy's.

July 28. At 3 A. M. under cover of their ship's fire, the Enemy made good their landing on Majabigwaduce, and, from their great superiority of numbers, obliged the King's troops to retreat to the garrison. The Enemy's right pressed hard, and in force, upon the left of the King's troops, and attempted to cut off a party of men at the small battery; but the judgement and experience of a brave officer (Lieut. Caffrac, of the 82d) counteracted their designs; and a retreat was effected with all the order and regularity necessary on such occasions. An attempt was made to demolish the guns; but the Enemy pushed their force to this ground so rapidly as not to suffer it. The possession of this battery afforded their ships a nearer station, on which they immediately seised. At 6 A.M. the Enemy opened their battery of 18 and 12 pounders from Nautilus island, and kept up the whole day a brisk and well-directed fire against the men of war. The King's ships cannonaded the battery for two glasses, and killed some men at it; but their light metal (six-pounders) was found to be of little service

ſervice, in compariſon to the damages they ſuſtained from ſuch heavy metal brought againſt them. At 10 A. M. the Warren, of 32 guns, the Commodore's ſhip, and which had not as yet been in action, got under weigh, and, with three more ſhips, ſhewed an appearance of entering the harbour, but hauled by the wind at a long ſhot diſtance. A briſk fire was kept up for half an hour, when the Enemy bore up, and came to an anchor again without. The Warren ſuffered conſiderably; her main-maſt ſhot through in two places, the gammoning of her bowſprit cut to pieces, and her fore-ſtay ſhot away. Their confuſion appeared to be great, and very nearly occaſioned her getting on ſhore; ſo that they were obliged to let go an anchor, and drop into the inlet between Majabigwaduce head and the point, where the ſhip lay this and the next day repairing her damages. The battery on the iſland ſtill keeping up a heavy fire, and the ſhips crews being expoſed without the leaſt benefit to the ſervice, Capt. Mowat thought proper to move further up the harbour, which was done in the night, and the line formed again; he being firmly reſolved to diſpute the harbour to the laſt extremity, as on that entirely depended the ſafety of the garriſon, whoſe communication with the men of war was of the utmoſt importance. The diſpoſitions on ſhore and on the water co-operating,

and perfectly ſupporting each other, foiled the Enemy in their purpoſes: their troops were yet confined to a ſpot they could not move from; and, while the harbour was ſecure, their intentions of making approaches, and inveſting the fort on all ſides, could by no means be put in execution. The preſent ſtation of the men of war being ſuch as rendered it impoſſible for the Enemy's ſhips to act but at particular periods, the marines (whoſe ſervice, in their peculiar line of duty, was not immediately required on board) were ordered on ſhore to garriſon-duty, holding themſelves in readineſs to embark at a moment's notice, which with eaſe they could have effected in ten or fifteen minutes. Guard-boats as uſual during the night.

July 29. At 6 A. M. the Enemy's ſhips weighed, and, altering their poſitions, came to an anchor again. The ſtate of the fortreſs requiring more cannon, ſome remaining off-ſide guns were landed from the men of war, and dragged by the ſeamen up to the fortreſs for its uſe and that of the batteries; and though the taſk, to be performed up a ſteep hill, over rocks and innumerable ſtumps of fallen trees, was laborious, yet their chearfulneſs and zeal for the ſervice ſurmounted every difficulty.

P. M.

P. M. the Enemy opened their batteries on the heights of Majabigwaduce, and kept up a warm and inceſſant fire againſt the fortreſs. The commanding ground of the Enemy's works, and the ſhort diſtance from the fortreſs, gave them ſome advantages with their grape as well as round ſhot, which conſiderably damaged the ſtorehouſe in the garriſon.

Six pieces of cannon at the half-moon battery near Bank's houſe, and which belonged to the fortreſs, being now found neceſſary for its particular defence, were moved up to it, and replaced with ſome ſhip's guns, under the direction of the gunner of the Albany, with a party of ſeamen.

Capt. Mowat having obtained intelligence, that the Enemy, in deſpair of reducing the King's ſhips by the means of their own, or of getting poſſeſſion of the harbour, had come to the reſolution of joining their whole force, in troops, marines, and ſeamen, to ſtorm the fortreſs the next morning at day-break, he judged it expedient to reinforce the garriſon with what ſeamen could be conveniently ſpared; and, for this purpoſe, at the cloſe of the evening, 140 men, under the command of Lieut. Brooke, were ſent into garriſon: part of them were immediately de-

tached to reinforce the troops on the out-line piquets, others manned the facing of their own baſtion, while the remainder were buſily employed in raiſing the cavaliers in the fort. In all theſe operations, a brotherly affection appeared to unite the forces both by ſea and land, and to direct their views all to one point, much to their credit, and to the honour and benefit of the ſervice. During the night the Enemy threw a number of ſhells into the fortreſs. At 10 P. M. a few ſhot between the Enemy's guard-boats and thoſe from the King's ſhips.

July 30. The Enemy's ſhips preſerve their diſpoſition of yeſterday. A briſk cannonade the whole day between the fortreſs and the Enemy's batteries on the height; and a number of ſhells thrown on both ſides. The ſtore-houſes being apprehended to be in danger, ſome ſeamen were ordered to move the proviſions out of the fortreſs into the ditch in its rear; as likewiſe a quantity at another ſtore-houſe. Guard-boats as uſual.

July 31. At 2 A. M. the ſeamen and marines of the Enemy's fleet landed to the weſtward of the half-moon battery, and, under cover of the night, attacked the piquet, and by heavy platoon firings obliged them to retreat; but an alert

alert reinforcement of 50 men, who were detached from the garriſon, under the command of Lieut. Graham of the 82d regiment, to the ſupport of the piquet, drove the Enemy back with ſome loſs in killed, wounded, and taken, amounting, on the whole, according to the beſt information, to about 100; the loſs on the part of the King's forces, amounting to 15 killed, wounded, and miſſing, fell chiefly on the ſeamen and marines, who compoſed the piquet this night. Lieut. Graham unfortunately received a dangerous wound in this action.

Auguſt 1. A ſlack fire on all ſides. At 4 P. M. the Enemy's fleet getting under weigh, and the wind and tide ſerving them to enter the harbour, the embodied ſeamen were immediately called on board their reſpective ſhips; but it afterwards appeared that the Enemy weighed only to form a cloſer line. Guard-boats as uſual.

Auguſt 2. At 10 A. M. three of the Enemy's ſhips weighed, and came to an anchor nearer the harbour's mouth. Some cannonading between the fortreſs and the Enemy's batteries on the height. The outer magazine of the fortreſs being too much expoſed, as lying in front and between the two fires, the marines were charged with the duty of bringing it to the ma-

magazine in the fortreſs, which was performed without any loſs. P. M. a flag of truce from the Enemy, to treat for the exchange of a lieutenant of their fleet, taken (wounded) at the half-moon battery on the 31ſt ult. but he had died of his wounds this morning. This day the Enemy poſted ſome marksmen behind trees within muſquet-ſhot of the fortreſs, and killed and wounded ſome centinels.

Auguſt 3, A ſlack fire the whole day. Perceived the Enemy buſy in erecting a battery to the northward on the main, above the King's ſhips. By a deſerter from the Enemy's fleet, we learn, the force landed below the half-moon battery was 1000 ſeamen and marines, joined on their landing by 200 troops; that their intentions were, to ſtorm the fortreſs in the rear, while the army from the heights made their attack in front; that it was not intended to ſtorm the half-moon battery, but that they had miſtaken their road in endeavouring to get in the rear of the fortreſs, when they received the firſt fire of the piquet, which led them to ſuppoſe their deſign had been diſcovered, and that they were ambuſhed. The army alſo, believing this to be the caſe, retreated to their ground. At 2 P. M. ſome ſeamen were ſent to the fortreſs to aſſiſt in working the cannon, and another party for the defence of the

Sea-

Seamen's baſtion, where a number of ſwivels from the men of war were planted, loaded with grape ſhot, as a precaution againſt any attempt of the Enemy to ſtorm the works. By requeſt of the General, a number of pikes were alſo brought from the King's ſhips to the fortreſs, and put in the hands of the ſeamen, to prevent the Enemy from BOARDING their baſtion. Guard-boats out as uſual.

Auguſt 4. The Enemy's ſhips retain their former ſituation. A ſmart cannonading between the fortreſs and the batteries on the heights, and a great number of ſhells thrown on both ſides. Some ſhip's buckets for the uſe of the garriſon brought on ſhore, in caſe the faſcines at the well baſtion, or ſtore-houſes, might be fired by the Enemy's ſhells. At 9 A. M. the Enemy opened their new battery near Weſcoat's houſe, on the main, to the northward of the ſhipping.—A briſk fire was kept up the whole day, and the men of war ſuffered much in their hulls and rigging: being too far from that battery for the light metal of the ſhips to produce any effect, their companies were ordered below. P. M. ſome ſkirmiſhing between the piquets, and trifling loſſes on both ſides; on the Enemy's, ſome Indians were killed. During the day, ſeveral accidents happened by cannon-ſhot in the fort: among others, the boat-ſwain of the Nautilus was wounded by grape, and a ſea-

a ſeaman belonging to the North killed by an 18-pounder, at the guns they were ſtationed at in the fortreſs.

Auguſt 5. Cannonading the greateſt part of the day between the fortreſs and the Enemy's batteries on the height, and from the north battery againſt the men of war, damaging their hulls and rigging. A. M. the remaining off-ſide guns from his Majeſty's ſloop North brought on ſhore, and mounted in the cavalier in the fortreſs. P. M. the garriſon, being much in want of wads and match, was ſupplied from the men of war, as alſo with ſome ſix-pound ſhot, together with a quantity of twelve-pound ſhot, in which it is deficient. The north battery on the main having the command of the oppoſite ſhore on the peninſula of Majabigwaduce, where the Enemy, under its protection, might make lodgements in their approaches towards the heights oppoſite the men of war and within ſhot of the fortreſs, and might thereby deſtroy the communication between them and the garriſon; Capt. Mowat judged it neceſſary to erect a work in order to preſerve this communication; a ſquare redoubt was therefore marked out, to be manned with 50 ſeamen, and to mount eight ſhip's guns *en barbette*. Guard-boats as uſual during the night.

Auguſt

Auguſt 6. Slack fire between the fortreſs and batteries on the heights; and a few ſhot from the north battery againſt the men of war, cutting their rigging, and diſmounting a ſix-pounder on board the North. At 4 A. M. 70 ſeamen from the different ſhips, under the direction of Lieut. Brooke, of the North, ſent on ſhore to raiſe the Seamen's redoubt on the height. P. M. a quantity of muſquet-cartridges (of which the garriſon was in want) brought on ſhore from the men of war. Guard-boats as uſual. At 11 a few ſhot exchanged between the guard-boats.

Auguſt 7. The Enemy's ſhips preſerve their poſitions. At 9 A. M. three of their brigs got under weigh, and ſtood down the bay, ſuppoſed on the look-out. Some ſkirmiſhing between the piquets, with loſs to the Enemy; Lieut. M'Neil, of the 82d, and one private, wounded. Slack fire between the batteries and the fortreſs, and the north battery perfectly ſilent. At 4 P. M. diſcovered a boat croſſing the S. E. bay to Hainey's plantation, where the Enemy kept a piquet. Lieut. Congalton, of the Nautilus, chaced with the boats from the men of war, and took her; but her crew, with thoſe of a whale-boat, and a gondola for tranſporting cannon, got ſafe on ſhore, and joined the piquet. Capt. Farnham, of the Nautilus, with Lieut Brooke and 50 ſeamen, joined by a party of ſoldiers from the garriſon, landed and ſcoured

the woods; the Enemy fled immediately, and ſo effectually concealed themſelves as not to be diſcovered: ſome had left their arms, ammunition, and blankets, which were taken and brought on board. Guard-boats as uſual during the night.

By a deſerter from the enemy we learn, that General Lovell had ſent out ſmall parties from his army, round the country, and brought in a great number of loyal inhabitants, who were ſent on board their fleet, and thruſt down the holds, heavily laden with irons, both on the hands and feet; their milch cows, and other ſtock, killed for the Enemy's uſe; all their moveables deſtroyed or plundered, and their wives and children left deſtitute of every ſupport of life.

Auguſt 8. A conſtant cannonade the whole day between the fortreſs and the Enemy's batteries on the height; and from the north battery againſt the men of war, but returned only with a muſquet. At 10 A. M. the Enemy brought a field-piece to play from the main on the ſeamen working at the redoubt, but the facing towards the Enemy being the firſt raiſed, for the purpoſe of covering the party, it was impoſſible to diſlodge them; and a covering party daily attending from the garriſon, prevented a nearer approach on any other ground. This evening the redoubt was finiſhed, and, to the credit of the ſeamen, met with the appro-

approbation of the General and Engineers. Guard-boats as uſual.

Auguſt 9. Cannonading as uſual. At 9 A. M. a new battery, on the left of the Enemy's lines, was opened againſt the fortreſs, and its chief fire, as well as the ſhells, directed againſt the N. W. baſtion, raiſed with faſcines only. P. M. diſcovered the Enemy had moved their piquet from Hainey's plantation, and given up their deſign of carrying on a work for two 18-pounders againſt the men of war. Guard-boats as uſual during the night.

Auguſt 10. The Enemy's ſhips in the former poſition. A ſlack fire on all ſides; and nothing material.

Auguſt 11. A ſmart cannonading from all the batteries, and ſome ſhot from the north battery well directed at the men of war.

Auguſt 12. Slack fire on all ſides, and no material operations the whole day; but at 9 P. M. a large body of ſeamen and marines, from the Enemy's fleet, landed below Bank's houſe to the weſtward, and ſetting fire to ſome barns, houſes, and a quantity of lumber-boards, &c. on the beach, retreated to their ſhips again.

Auguſt 13. At day-break ſome ſkirmiſhing between

tween the piquets, but no material loſs on either ſide. At 1 P. M. came in ſome deſerters from the Enemy's ſhips, who ſay, the boat chaced on ſhore at Hainey's plantation had in her their Commodore and ſome officers of their fleet, who, having eſcaped, returned to their ſhips, after lying two days and a night in the woods; that one of the officers (Capt. Roſs, of the Monmouth) had broke his leg in the woods; and that they were much diſconcerted at the loſs of the gondola, which was intended to carry over ſome 18-pounders to the battery on the plantation. Capt. Mowat alſo (by his uſual diligence) obtained information, that a degree of mutiny prevailed in the Enemy's fleet againſt their Commodore, who, notwithſtanding the reſolves of ſeveral councils of war, and the urgent ſolicitations of the General to make another attempt on the King's ſhips, had hitherto declined it through fear of loſing ſome ſhips; but that, in conſequence of another council held this morning on board the Warren, it was determined to force the harbour next tide, and take or deſtroy the men of war; that five ſhips were deſtined for this ſervice, one of which was the Warren; but that the Putnam, of 20 guns, was to lead; and that each ſhip was doubly manned with picked men. This information was confirmed at noon by five of their fleet getting under weigh, and coming to an anchor in a line, the Putnam being the headmoſt

ſhip

ſhip. The marines were now called on board their reſpective ſhips, the barricades ſtrengthened, guns double-ſhotted, and every diſpoſition made for the moſt vigorous defence. The St. Helena tranſport had been brought into the line, and fitted out with what guns could be procured, and the crews of the tranſports (now ſcuttled and laid on ſhore, to prevent them from falling into the Enemy's hands) turned on board to fight her; and the General had alſo advanced five pieces of cannon, under cover of an épaulement, to ſalute them as they came in. But at 5 P. M. the appearance of ſome ſtrange ſails in the offing, diſconcerted the Enemy's plan; and the five ſhips, getting under weigh again, ſtood off and on the whole night. Guard-boats watching the motions of the Enemy's fleet; and the ſhips' companies ſtanding at their quarters until day-light. This night had been fixed upon to ſtorm the north battery, with 60 ſeamen, under the command of Lieut. Brooke, ſupported by Lieut. Caffrac, of the 82d, with 50 ſoldiers; but the Enemy's operations, and the appearance of the ſtrange fleet, prevented the execution of it.

Auguſt 14. At day-break this morning it was diſcovered that the Enemy had during the night moved off their cannon, and quitting the heights of Majabigwaduce, ſilently embarked in ſmall veſſels.

At

At 4 A. M. after firing a ſhot or two, they alſo evacuated Nautilus iſland; and leaving their cannon ſpiked and diſmounted, got on board a brig lying to receive them, and made ſail with the tranſports up Penobſcot river. The whole fleet now got under weigh, and upon one of the brig's heaving in ſight, off the harbour's mouth, with various ſignals abroad, they bore up with all ſail after the tranſports. There now remaining no doubt but the ſtrange fleet was the relief expected, the off-ſide guns of the Albany, North, and Nautilus, were got down from the fortreſs, and being taken on board, the three ſhips ſlipped their ſtern moorings, hove up their bower anchors, and working out of the harbour, joined in about the centre of the King's fleet, in purſuit of the flying Enemy, who were now crouding with every ſail they could ſet. The Hunter and Hampden, two of the Enemy's ſhips, of 20 guns each, attempted to eſcape through the paſſage of Long Iſland, but were cut off and taken; the former ran in ſhore, all ſtanding, and was inſtantly deſerted by her crew, who got ſafe on ſhore; and the Raiſonnable, Sir George Collier, being the ſternmoſt ſhip in the fleet, took poſſeſſion, and got her off, and came to an anchor near her. The reſt of his Majeſty's ſhips continued in chace of the Enemy, until it grew ſo dark as to render the narrow navigation exceedingly dangerous; and they were obliged to anchor

chor for the night, while the Enemy, having good pilots, ran ſome miles farther up the river. The Defiance brig, of 14 guns, ran into an inlet, where ſhe could not be purſued, and was ſet on fire by her crew. During the night the Enemy ſet fire to ſeveral ſhips and brigs, which blew up with vaſt explofions.

In ſhort, the harmony and good underſtanding that ſubſiſted amongſt the Forces by ſea and by land, enabled them to effect almoſt prodigies; for ſo ardently did they vie with each other in the general ſervice, that it may be truly ſaid, not a ſingle Officer, Sailor, or Soldier, was once ſeen to ſhrink from his duty, difficult and hazardous as it was. The flying ſcout of 50 men, commanded by Lieut. Caffrae, of the 82d, in particular, diſtinguiſhed themſelves to admiration, marching frequently almoſt round the peninſula, both by day and by night, and with drum and fife playing the tune called *Yankee*; which greatly diſpirited the Enemy, and prevented their ſmall parties from galling our men at the works. In one inſtance, they even drove back to their incampment 300 of the Enemy, who had been ſent to ſtorm an outwork.

The manœuvres of the Three Sloops of War, under the direction of Capt. Mowat, were, moreover, ſuch as enabled the King's forces to hold out a cloſe ſiege of 21 days, againſt a fleet and army of more

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more than ſix times their number, and ſtrength; inſomuch that, on the firſt appearance of the reinforcement from New-York, in the offing, the Enemy debarked their troops, and ſailed with their whole fleet up Penobſcot river, where they burnt their ſhipping, and from thence marched to their reſpective homes: and the loyal inhabitants, who were taken in the time of the ſiege, and cruelly treated on board their ſhips, had their irons taken off, and were ſet at liberty.*

Thus did this little Garriſon,† with Three Sloops of War, by the unwearied exertions of Soldiers and Seamen, whoſe bravery cannot be too much extolled, under the judicious conduct of Officers whoſe zeal is hardly to be parallelled, ſucceed, in an enterpriſe of great importance, againſt difficulties apparently inſurmountable, under circumſtances exceedingly critical, and in a manner ſtrongly expreſſive of their faithful and ſpirited attachment to the intereſts of their King and Country.

* To give them a cool-airing, as the Enemy called it, once a day, the irons were knocked off their feet, and they were put into a boat, along-ſide the ſhip, where they remained about an hour, and had the filth of the ſhip poured upon their heads.

† When the account of an army coming to beſiege this place was received, the curtains in ſome parts of the intended fort were not more than four feet in height; two baſtions were but juſt begun to be built, and the other two were only marked out.

A LIST

A LIST of the Enemy's Ships, &c. taken and deſtroyed in Penobſcot River.

Ships' Names	Commanders	Guns	N°. of men	Metal pounders	
Warren	Saltonſtall, Com.	32	250	18 and 12	Burnt
Sally	Holmes	22	200	9 and 6	Burnt
Putnam	Waters	20	130	9	Burnt
Hector	Cairns	20	130	9	Burnt
Revenge	Hallet	20	120	6	Burnt
Monmouth	Roſs	20	100	6	Burnt
Hampden	Salter	20	130	9 and 6	Taken
Hunter	Brown	20	130	6	Taken
Vengeance	Thomas	18	140	9 and 6	Burnt
Black Prince	Weſt	18	100	6	Burnt
Sky Rocket	Burke	16	120	6	Burnt
Brigs					
Hazard	Williams	18	100	6	Burnt
Active		16	100	6	Burnt
Tyrranicide	Cathcart	14	90	6	Burnt
Defiance		14	90	6	Burnt
Diligence	Brown	14	90	4	Burnt
Pallas	Johnſtone	14	80	4	Burnt
Sloop Providence	Hacker	12	50	6	Burnt

With Nine Sail of Tranſport Veſſels — — — Taken
And Ten Sail of Tranſport and Ordnance ditto — Burnt

Total 37

Killed, wounded, and miſſing, of his Majeſty's Sea and Land Forces — — 70
Killed, wounded, and taken, on the Enemy's Side 474

PROCLAMATION

By Brigadier-General FRANCIS M'LEAN, and ANDREW BARKLEY, Eſq. commanding Detachments of His Majeſty's Land and Naval Forces in the River Penobſcot.

WHEREAS it is well known that there are in the ſeveral Colonies in North-America, now in open rebellion, many perſons who ſtill retain a ſenſe of their duty, and who are only deterred from an open profeſſion of it by the fear of becoming objects of the cruel treatment which they have ſeen exerciſed on others, by perſons who, having plunged their country into the horrors and diſtreſſes it now labours under, induſtriouſly ſeize every opportunity of gratifying their avaritious and wicked diſpoſitions by the wanton oppreſſion of individuals:

And whereas it hath been repreſented, that the greater part of the inhabitants on the river Penobſcot, and the ſeveral iſlands therein, are well affected

affected to his Majeſty's perſon, and the ancient conſtitution under which they formerly flouriſhed, and from the reſtoration of which they can alone expect relief from the diſtreſſed ſituation they are now in:

Their Excellencies the Commanders in chief of his Majeſty's naval and land forces in North-America, taking the good diſpoſitions of the inhabitants above mentioned (as repreſented to them) into their conſideration, and deſirous of encouraging and protecting the perſons profeſſing them, and ſecuring them from any moleſtation on that account, have ordered here the forces under our reſpective commands for that purpoſe: We therefore, in obedience to their directions, hereby invite, and earneſtly requeſt, the inhabitants on the river Penobſcot, and the iſlands therein in general, to be the firſt to return to that ſtate of good order and government to which the whole muſt in the end ſubmit, and openly to profeſs that loyalty and allegiance from which they have been led to ſwerve by arguments and apprehenſions, of the falſehood of which they muſt have been long ago ſenſible, as well as of the views of thoſe who firſt promoted them. We alſo call on all thoſe in whom thoſe principles have never been ſhaken, to embrace the preſent opportunity of manifeſting them without dread or apprehenſions,

as we hereby assure them of every protection in the power of the forces under our respective commands to bestow. And, to quiet the apprehensions of any persons who might be deterred from embracing this opportunity by the dread of being punished for any former acts of rebellion which they may have been led to commit, we hereby declare that we will extend our protection, and give every encouragement, to all persons of whatever denomination, without any retrospect to their former behaviour, who shall, within eight days from the date hereof, take the oaths of allegiance and fidelity to his Majesty, before such persons as we shall appoint, either at the head-quarters of his Majesty's troops at Majabigwaduce Neck, or at Fort Pownal; which oaths of allegiance and fidelity we require all persons whatever to come and take within the required time, and not, by neglecting to give such testimony of their loyalty, give room to look on them as desirous of continuing in an obstinate and unavailing rebellion, and subject themselves to the treatment such conduct will deserve.

To all persons who, by returning to their allegiance, shall merit it, we not only promise protection and encouragement, with the relief that shall be in our power to alleviate their present distresses; but we also declare, that we will employ the

the forces under our command to puniſh all perſons whatever who ſhall attempt in any manner to moleſt them, either in perſon or property, on account of their loyalty or conduct towards us: and if forced by their behaviour to puniſh any men, or ſet of men, on the above-mentioned account, we declare that we will do it in ſuch an exemplary manner, as we hope will deter others from obliging us to have recourſe to ſuch ſevere means in future.

And whereas the inhabitants, to whom this proclamation is addreſſed, as well as thoſe in general ſettled in that part of the country called the Province of Maine, have ſettled themſelves on lands, and cultivated them, without any grant or title by which their poſſeſſions can be ſecured to them or their poſterity; we therefore declare, that we have full power to promiſe, and we do hereby promiſe, that no perſon whatever, who ſhall take the oaths of allegiance as above required, and give ſuch other teſtimony of their attachment to the conſtitution, as we, or other officers commanding his Majeſty's forces, may require, ſhall be diſturbed in their poſſeſſions; but that, whenever civil government takes place, they ſhall receive gratuitous grants from his Majeſty (who alone has the power of giving them) of all lands they may have actually cultivated and improved.

And

And whereas the leaders of the preſent rebellion, in purſuit of the views which firſt inſtigated them to foment it, and probably to blind the people with regard to the cauſe of the ſevere diſtreſs under which they now labour, have induſtriouſly propagated a notion, that the officers of his Majeſty's ſea and land forces willingly add to their ſufferings; We therefore, to remove ſuch prejudices, and as far as in us lies to alleviate the miſery of the inhabitants of the villages and iſlands along the coaſt of New England, hereby declare, that ſuch of them as behave themſelves in a peaceable orderly manner, ſhall have full liberty to fiſh in their ordinary coaſt fiſhing craft, without any moleſtation on our part; on the contrary, they ſhall be protected in it by all veſſels and parties under our command.

Given on board his Majeſty's ſhip Blonde, in Majabigwaduce river, the 15th of June, 1779.

FRANCIS M'LEAN,
ANDREW BARKLEY.

PRO-

PROCLAMATION

By SOLOMON LOVELL, Esq; Brigadier-General and Commander in Chief of the Forces of the State of Massachusets Bay, and employed on an Expedition against the Army of the King of Great-Britain at Penobscot.

WHEREAS it hath been represented to Government, that an armament of some sea and land forces belonging to the King of Great-Britain, under the encouragement of divers of inhabitants of these parts, inimically disposed to the United States of America, have made a descent on Penobscot, and the parts adjacent; and, after propagating various false reports of a general insurrection of the Eastern and Northern Indians in their favour, a Proclamation has been issued on the 15th of June last, signed Francis M'Lean and Andrew Barclay, said to be in behalf and by authority of said King, promising grants of lands which he never owned, and of which he has now forfeited the jurisdiction by an avowed breach

of

of that compact between him and his ſubjects, whereon ſaid juriſdiction was founded, and terrifying by threatenings which his power in this land is unable to execute, unleſs his ſervants have recourſe to their wonted methods of midnight ſlaughter and ſavage devaſtation, all deſigns to induce the free inhabitants of theſe parts of the State to ſubmit to their power, and to take an oath of allegiance to their King, whereby they muſt greatly profane the name of God, and ſolemnly intangle themſelves in an obligation to give up their cattle, proviſions, and labour, to the will of every officer pretending the authority of ſaid King, and finally to take arms againſt their brethren whenever called upon; and it appears ſome perſons have been induced out of fear, and by the force of compulſion, to take ſaid oath, who may ſo far be impoſed on as to think themſelves bound to act in conformity thereto:

I have thought proper to iſſue this Proclamation, hereby declaring that the allegiance due to the *ancient conſtitution* obliges to reſiſt to the laſt extremity the preſent ſyſtem of tyranny in the Britiſh Government, which has now overſet it; that by this mode of government the people have been reduced to a ſtate of nature, and it is utterly unlawful to require any obedience to their forfeited authority; and all acts recogniſing ſuch au-

authority are ſinful in their nature: no oaths promiſing it can be lawful; ſince, if any act be ſin in itſelf, no oath can make it a duty: the very taking of ſuch an oath is a crime, of which every act adhering to it is a repetition with dreadful aggravations.

In all caſes where oaths are impoſed, and perſons compelled to ſubmit to them, by threats of immediate deſtruction, which they cannot otherwiſe avoid, it is manifeſt that, however obligatory they may be to the conſcience of the *compeller*, whoſe intereſt and meaning is thereby ſo ſolemnly witneſſed, it *can have no force on the compelled*, whoſe intereſt was known, by the compulſion itſelf, to be the very reverſe of the words in which it is expreſſed.

At the ſame time I do aſſure the inhabitants of Penobſcot and the country adjacent, that, if they are found to be ſo loſt to all the virtues of good citizens, as to comply with advice of ſaid pretended Proclamation, by becoming the firſt to deſert the cauſe of freedom, of virtue, and of God, which the whole force of Britain and all its auxiliaries now find themſelves unable to overthrow, they muſt expect alſo to be the firſt to experience the juſt reſentment of this injured and betrayed Country, in the condign puniſhment which their treaſon deſerves. From this

punishment their invaders will be very unlike to protect them, as it is now known they are not able to protect themselves in any part of America: And as the protection, on which those proclaiming Gentlemen say they have *power* only to *promise*, can be afforded by nothing but the forces which they command, and of these forces by the blessing of God I doubt not in a very short time to be put in possession; so there is more reason to expect it from the Indian nations around, as good part of them are now in my encampment, and several hundreds more in their way speedily to join me; and I have the best evidences from all the rest, that they stedfastly refused to accept of any presents, sign the papers, or do any the barbarous acts assigned them by our Enemies; and, on the contrary, hold themselves in readiness, on the shortest notice, to turn out for the defence of any place which these men may attack.

Therefore, as the authority committed to me necessitates my executing my best endeavours to rid this much-abused country, not only of its foreign, but also from its domestic enemies, I do therefore declare, that when, by the blessing of Heaven on the American arms, we shall have brought the forces that have invaded us to the state they deserve, it shall be my care that the laws of this state be duly executed upon such inhabitants thereof

thereof as have traitoriouſly abetted or encouraged them in their lawleſs attempts.

And, that proper diſcrimination may be made between them and the faithful and liege ſubjects of the United States, I further declare, that all perſons within the Eaſtern country, that have taken the oath preſcribed by the Enemy, and ſhall not within forty-eight hours after receiving notice of this proclamation repair to my camp at Majabigwaduce, with ſuch arms and accoutrements as they now poſſeſs, ſhall be conſidered as traitors, who have voluntarily combined with the Common Enemy in the common ruin; but all ſuch as ſhall appear at head-quarters within ſaid term, and give proper teſtimony of their determination to continue cordially in allegiance to the United States of America, ſhall be recogniſed as good and faithful members of the community, and treated accordingly, any thing obnoxious in their taking the oath notwithſtanding.

Given at Head-Quarters on the Heights of Majabigwaduce, this 29th Day of July, Anno Domini 1779, and in the Fourth Year of the Independence of America.

(Signed) S. LOVELL, Brig. Gen.

By command of the General,
JOHN MARSTON, Secretary.

Copy

Copy of General LOVELL's Letter to Commodore SALTONSTALL; taken with other Papers on board the Tranſport.

Head Quarters, Majabigwaduce Heights, Aug. 11, 1779.

SIR,

IN this alarming poſture of affairs, I am once more obliged to requeſt the moſt ſpeedy ſervice in your department; and that a moment be no longer delayed to put in execution what I have been given to underſtand was the determination of your laſt council.

The deſtruction of the Enemy's ſhips muſt be effected at any rate, although it might coſt us half our own; but I cannot poſſibly conceive that danger, or that the attempt will miſcarry. I mean not to determine on your mode of attack; but it appears to me ſo very practicable, that any farther delay muſt be infamous; and I have it this moment by a deſerter from one of their ſhips, that the moment you enter the harbour, they will deſtroy them; which will effectually anſwer our purpoſe.

The

The idea of more batteries against them was ſufficiently reprobated; and, could the ſituation of ground admit of ſuch proceeding, it would now take up *dangerous time*; and we have already experienced their obſtinacy in that reſpect.

You cannot but be ſenſible of my ardent deſire to co-operate with you; and of this the guard at Weſtcot's is a ſufficient proof, and which I think a hazardous diſtance from my encampment. My ſituation is confined; and while the Enemy's ſhips are ſafe, the operations of the Army cannot poſſibly be extended an inch beyond the preſent limits: the alternative now remains, to deſtroy the ſhips, or raiſe the ſiege.

The information of the Britiſh ſhips at the Hook (probably ſailed before this) is not to be deſpiſed; not a moment is to be loſt; we muſt determine inſtantly, or it may be productive of diſgrace, loſs of ſhips and men: as to the troops, their retreat is ſecure, although I would die to ſave the neceſſity of it.

I feel for the honour of America, in an expedition which a nobler exertion had long before this crowned with ſucceſs; and I have now only to repeat the abſolute neceſſity of undertaking the

the deſtruction of the ſhips, or quitting the place: and with theſe opinions I ſhall impatiently wait your anſwer.

I am,

SIR,

Yours, &c.

S. LOVELL, Brig. Gen.

To Commodore Saltonſtall.

THE END.

POSTSCRIPT.

INASMUCH as the Country of Penobſcot has till lately been but little known or conſidered by Britons, the Editor has thought proper to give the Public the following ſhort Account of it; having of late years travelled eight times through the ſame, and made himſelf acquainted with the moſt reſpectable perſons in each Town, and with the minuteſt circumſtances which reſpect that Diſtrict.

Penobſcot, ſometimes called the Territory of Sagadahock, lies in the eaſtern part of the Province of Maſſachuſets-Bay, having the Province of Nova Scotia (viz. Paſſamaquodie) for its Eaſtern, the Province of Main (viz. Kennebeck River) its Weſtern, Canada its Northern, and the Ocean its Southern boundary; and is nearly as large as the Kingdom of Ireland. The French were formerly in poſſeſſion of part of this Country, viz. from Penobſcot River eaſtward: they had a Fort on the Peninſula of Majabigwaduce,

commanded

commanded by Monſieur Caſtine, and a great number of French inhabitants ſettled up Penobſcot, and on other rivers, and along the ſea coaſt to Nova Scotia. On the reduction of Louiſbourg, in the year 1745, Monſieur Caſtine demoliſhed the Fort; and all the inhabitants of this diſtrict broke up, and removed to Canada.

At the end of the laſt war, viz. in 1763, the General Aſſembly of Maſſachuſets-Bay granted thirteen Townſhips, each of ſix miles ſquare, lying on the Eaſt ſide of Penobſcot River, to thirteen companies of Proprietors, who proceeded to lay out the ſaid Townſhips, and returned plans thereof to the General Aſſembly, which were approved and accepted. In conſequence of this meaſure, about ſixty families ſettled on each Townſhip, and made great improvements of the land. Thoſe ſettlers employed the then Agent for the ſaid Province at the Court of Great Britain, to ſolicit the Royal approbation of thoſe grants; and in the year 1773, as alſo in the laſt year (1780) they ſent an Agent, expreſsly on their own account, for the ſame purpoſe, and further, to pray that His Majeſty would be graciouſly pleaſed to ſever that Diſtrict from the Province of Maſſachuſets-Bay, and erect it into a Government under the authority of the Crown; which ſolicitation has hitherto, however, been without effect.

The

The Inhabitants of this Country are in general loyal, except thoſe of the Townſhip of Machias,* who have at that place a ſmall fort under the direction of Congreſs, and about 135 Indian warriors of the Machias tribe, in their intereſt: all the other tribes of Northern Indians are in the King's peace.

The ſoil of this Country is good, and well adapted to the culture of every ſort of Engliſh grain, as well as hemp, flax, &c. but it is more eſpecially proper for graſing, (in which it excells every other part of America) and for breeding cattle, ſheep, ſwine, and horſes.—Its woods abound with mooſe† and other kind of deer, beaver, and ſeveral kinds of game good for food.

A few miles from the ſea-coaſt, are large tracts of land, covered with pine trees, ſuitable for maſts of the largeſt ſize.‡—Timber for ſhip-building, ſtaves, boards, and all other ſorts of lumber.—On the rivers and ſtreams there were more than 200 ſaw-mills, when the rebellion broke out, and many more might be erected. The rivers abound with ſalmon, and various other kinds of fiſh;

* This Townſhip was granted by the General Aſſembly ten years after the firſt thirteen Townſhips were granted.

† When full grown, the carcaſe weighs from 600 to 800lb.

‡ For this article Britain has hitherto been obliged to the Northern Powers, Ruſſia in particular.

ſeveral of which rivers are navigable 50 or 60 miles for ſhips of 300 tons, and much further for ſmall craft.—There are, on the ſea coaſt from Falmouth to Paſſamaquodie, which is about 70 leagues, more than twenty harbours: many of them are very large, with deep water, and good bottom, and are not incommoded with ice in the winter ſeaſon, viz. Falmouth, Sheepſcut, Townſend, George-Iſlands, Penobſcot, Algemogin, Baſs, Cranbury Iſland, Frenchman's Bay, Gooldſborough, Machias, Narraguagus, and Eaſt Paſſamaquodie. In each of theſe harbours ſhips of the largeſt ſize may ride in ſafety, in the moſt violent winds.—In the harbour of Majabigwaduce is a large ſandy beach; the tide flows from 15 to 18 feet; and a dock-yard may be erected there, at a ſmall expence, for the collection of maſts, lumber, &c. and to heave down the largeſt men of war.—Near the entrance of the harbour, is good fiſhing ground, where cod, ſhell, and ſeveral other kinds of fiſh are taken in plenty.

In October, 1772, there were, in this Diſtrict, 42 towns, and 2,638 families,* who have ſince greatly increaſed, at leaſt in the proportion of one fourth, which is 659 families, making, in the whole, 3,297 families:—Reckoning, then, five ſouls to each family (which is a moderate computation) there are now 16,485 ſouls.

To

* As appears by a liſt then taken by a reſpectable perſon.

To this New Country the Loyaliſts reſort with their families, (laſt ſummer, particularly, a great number of families were preparing to remove thither) from the New-England Provinces, and find an aſylum from the tyranny of Congreſs, and their tax-gatherers, as well as daily employment, in fiſhing, lumbering, clearing and preparing land for their ſubſiſtence; and there they continue, in full hope, and pleaſing expectation, that they may ſoon re-enjoy the liberties and privileges which would be beſt ſecured to them by laws, and under a form of government, modelled after the Britiſh Conſtitution; and that they may be covered in their poſſeſſions, agreeably to the Petition to the Throne, in 1773; which was renewed laſt year.

Should this Diſtrict be ſevered from the Province of Maſſachuſetts-Bay, and erected into a Province under the authority of the Crown, and the inhabitants *quieted* in their *poſſeſſions*, it would be ſettled with amazing rapidity; the Royal Navy, Weſt-India Iſlands, and other parts of His Majeſty's Dominions, well and plentifully ſerved for centuries to come, from this Diſtrict, with every article above mentioned, without being obliged to other Powers for the ſame; and the profits of the whole would fall into the lap of Great Britain, in return for her manufactures.

Roads

Roads would, moreover, be opened for communication with other His Majesty's Provinces, which might be travelled, in a short time, by the following routes:

Distance from Quebeck

	Miles.
To Passadonkeeg, Indian Old Town, on Penobscot River	65
Sawedabsccok	35
Fort Halifax on Kennebeck River	19
Pownalborough	33
Falmouth	54
Portsmouth	53
Boston	65
	324

Distance from Annapolis, Nova Scotia

	Miles.
To St. John's 16 leagues	48
Penobscot River	55
Fort Halifax	19
Boston	205
	327

N. B. From Boston to Fort Halifax is a good Cart Road.